GENERAL SECRETARIAT.

Reviews the Report on the working of the Jails and Lock-ups for the calendar year 1927.

READ—

Letter No. C. 820-38, dated 15th May 1928, from the Inspector-General of Prisons in Mysore, forwarding the report on the working of the Jails and Lock-ups in the State, during the calendar year 1927, with the prescribed statements.

ORDER No. G. 14421-31—PRIS. 82-27-3, DATED 30TH JUNE 1928.

Recorded.

2. The number of Jails remained the same as in the previous year. A Lock-up was newly established during the year at Kalasa in the Kadur District for the confinement of convicted and under-trial prisoners of the Local Bench Magistrate's Court.

3. The total number of admissions to the Jails and Lock-ups in the State during the year was 6,247 as against 6,578 in the previous year. Inclusive of 1,046 prisoners who were in confinement at the beginning of the year, the total Jail population was 7,293 against 7,675 in the previous year. Of these, 6,371 were discharged leaving 922 at the end of the year. The daily average number of prisoners was 889·65 as against 1,104·06 in the year 1926. This marked decrease in the Jail population is due to the fact that a large number of prisoners were released in August 1927, on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of the reign of His Highness the Maharaja. The number of juveniles admitted to the Jails and Lock-ups during the year was 75 as against 74 in the previous year.

4. The gross expenditure of the department was Rs. 1,49,388-14-9 against Rs. 1,50,946-15-10 or an average of Rs. 167-14-8 per head as against Rs. 136-11-6 during 1926.

5. The total cost of maintenance of prisoners in the two Jails was Rs. 1,24,714-12-2 as against Rs. 1,21,651-14-10 in the previous year. After deducting from the above the cash earnings of the prisoners amounting to Rs. 19,467-12-4, the net cost of maintenance amounts to Rs. 1,05,246-15-10 or Rs. 135-11-1 per head as against Rs. 1,01,656-2-3 or Rs. 110-7-11 per head in the year 1926. This increase in the average cost is mainly due to the increased establishment charges and a lower average number of prisoners during the year under review.

6. The health of the prisoners in the Jails and Lock-ups of the State was good throughout the year. The number of deaths among prisoners was 10 as against 13 in the previous year.

7. There was no overcrowding in any of the Jails or Lock-ups in the State. The garden attached to the Bangalore Central Jail was taken over by Government for being converted into building sites. This necessitated the construction of certain additional block of buildings for the use of the Jail. This work was carried out by the Superintendent, Bangalore Central Jail, at a low cost with the help of convict labour. The water-supply of the Bangalore Central Jail is reported to be precarious. The Inspector-General of Prisons considers that the water-supply can be improved by the construction of a tank of 4,000 gallons capacity and the installation of an electric pump for filling it. The Public Works Department has already been requested to take further action in the matter.

8. The moral and religious instruction of prisoners continued to receive special attention during the year. An Urdu School was started in March 1927 in the Bangalore Central Jail with 69 Mahomedan convicts as pupils. The experiment of imparting instruction by the intensive method which was tried in the Bangalore Central Jail has been pronounced to have been successful, and further experiments in the same direction are reported to be under contemplation.

9. The revision of the establishment of the department was sanctioned during the year with effect from 1st July 1927. A full-time Superintendent for the Mysore Jail was appointed during the year.

10. The remission system was liberalised on the lines recommended by the Indian Jails Committee.

11. The Standing Advisory Board, Bangalore, met twice during the year to consider the cases of prisoners who came under their purview. The Mysore Board did not meet as there were no prisoners whose cases could be considered by it. The operations of the Boards have been recently extended to long-term habitual convicts also.

12. The Discharged Prisoners Aid Society did good work during the year. Action was taken to establish District Committees and to draw up lists of gentlemen who could be appointed probation officers in the several Districts. These lists received from the Inspector-General of Prisons have since been approved by Government. Government are glad to observe that Mr. Manickavelu Mudaliar, one of the Members of the Society, has agreed to provide employment and boarding to all juvenile prisoners on discharge. They trust that other philanthrophic gentlemen will come forward to emulate his example. Government will be glad to have a special report as to the extent to which this scheme has been given effect to.

13. The Non-official visitors of the Bangalore Central Jail continued to evince great interest in the welfare of the prisoners. The Non-official visitors of the Mysore Jail are reported to have paid no visits at all to that Jail during the year under review.

14. The outstanding event of the year under review was the release of 180 prisoners and the grant of liberal remissions to all other prisoners on the occasion of the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of the reign of His Highness the Maharaja.

15. Government are pleased to note the appreciative remarks of the Inspector-General of Prisons about the work of Mr. C. Machiah, Superintendent, Bangalore Central Jail.

16. Government are pleased to note that the administration of the department during the year was satisfactory.

R. RANGA RAO
General Secretary to Government.

PUBLIC WORKS SECRETARIAT.

Appointing Mr. C. M. Cariappa, as a Member of the Bangalore Water Supply Committee.

READ—

(1) Government Order No. P. W. 400-5, dated the 8th May 1926, appointing a Committee for investigating and reporting upon the possibility of the Bangalore Water-Supply System being placed on a satisfactory basis.

(2) Letter No. 260—W. S. C., dated the 8th June 1928, from the Secretary, Bangalore Water Supply Committee.

ORDER NO. 111-8—S., DATED 9TH JULY 1928.

Mr. S. G. Forbes, Chief Electrical Engineer and one of the Members of the Committee having proceeded on leave for six months, Government have been pleased to appoint Mr. C. M. Cariappa, Officiating Chief Electrical Engineer, as one of the Members of the Committee during the absence of Mr. S. G. Forbes, on leave.

JOHN BHORE,
Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department.